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Semi-Weekly Telegraph
ST. JOHN, N. B., JUNE 14, 1905.

THE EQUITABLE SCANDAL

There is a new deal in the Equitable.
It was not so much a new deal as a square
one that was demanded. Whether the
new deal is also absolutely square it is
too early to decide. Hyde, Alexander,
and their lieutenants have left the ques-
tion of public opinion which followed the
recent scandalous developments. They cannot
in future give the trust millions of their
private profit. Mr. Paul Morton, a cabi-
net officer, believed to have been recom-
mended by Mr. Roosevelt for the Equi-
table job, is a strong figure well calculated
in some respects to restore public confi-
dence in the company, though the public
is not fully satisfied with the reasons
given for his resignation from the cabinet,
and may be inclined to suspect that there
are plans and motives behind the present
situation which would be interesting if
known.

"The whole Equitable scandal is too
bad ever to be disclosed publicly," says
The Telegraph's New York correspondent.
No doubt much will remain hidden,
though one will expect some further dis-
closure. A little while ago there were
reports that big railroad interests had
used the Equitable millions. Apparently Har-
rison is out. But it is improbable that
New York traction interests will succeed
the railroad interests as the power behind
the scenes? Mr. Morton, it was said, was
leaving Mr. Roosevelt's official family to
become the director of the Metropolitan
Traction Company, which owns most of
New York's surface cars. It was said also
that Mr. Roosevelt, in the course of his
war against railroad rebates, had discov-
ered that Mr. Morton, when president of
the Santa Fe, had granted, and defended
the granting of, the rebates forbidden by
the law. Naturally it was held in some
quarters that this discovery made both
Mr. Roosevelt and Mr. Morton uncomfort-
able and led to the shortening of Mr.
Morton's term as secretary of the navy.
Naturally, too, Mr. Morton's view of re-
bates, and his connection with traction
interests in New York, together with the
report that much of Mr. Hyde's Equi-
table holdings are believed to have been
acquired by one of the traction barons,
will throw a shadow over Mr. Morton's
connection with the Equitable. It may
not be justified, but so much is known
now of Equitable matters that public
confidence will be a plant of very slow
growth.

The Equitable middle cannot be made
worse by publicity now. If Mr. Morton
has really stripped Hyde, Alexander and
the lieutenants of both of their power,
and is committed to frank and radical re-
form, the situation may change rapidly
for the better. His value is as yet an un-
certain quantity. "Frenzied finance" will
yield to none but heroic treatment. Mr.
Morton must show whether he is a sur-
geon or a homeopath.

THE PEACE OUTLOOK

Talk about peace becomes more definite.
The form of the note sent to both Russia
and Japan by President Roosevelt is now
made public. It is not such a communi-
cation as could well give offense to either
of the belligerents. It expresses no view as
to the successes of one and the failures
of the other, but is simply an earnest
frank appeal to both, in the interests of
humanity, to exchange views regarding
terms. The writer speaks from the stand-
point of one whose nation wishes only
good for both belligerents. It is an ap-
pel which will be regarded as reasonable,
dictated by the best of motives, and hap-
pily ignored by the boast of the suggestion of
impropriety. Behind it is the endorsement of
the common sense and humanity of the
world. Given time to breathe and to con-
sider and to weigh the world's opinion
and her own wretched situation, Russia
may well hear and heed.

The President's message implies much
more than it expresses in words. Russia,
for the purposes of this war, is a spent
force. It would not be so if she could
fight on her European frontier and had
peace at home. But she must win in Man-
churia if she is to win at all, and in Man-
churia, after Mukden and the great sea
battle, her hand is powerless. That she
can keep the field in some fashion for a
while longer is not to be doubted; but to
do so is only to lengthen Japan's bill,
which is already long. There is the storm
at home to face. But will it be less serious
if the war is prolonged for six months
more with so much more humiliation ad-
ded?

Russia has listened. It is to be expected

ed now that she will bluff, and bargain,
and fence concerning terms. So much is
unavoidable. But Russia's prestige for a
generation is gone—shot away by Togo,
and Oryama and Nogi and the other grim
champions whose names the world has come
to know. Russia will haggle. But Russia
must settle.

FINDING THE MONEY

The more proposal to spend \$10,000,000
to build the Island tunnel has caused
some persons to regard the project as
skin to moonshine. But the tunnel ad-
vocates are prepared to show that the
Dominion will save money by giving the
Island what it feels it must have, and
what would be of immense benefit to the
whole country and especially the Mari-
time Provinces. This is the way in which
the tunnel men figure:—
The present system of operating steam-
ers across Northumberland Strait costs
\$100,000; the insurance upon the vessels
ten per cent. on a million dollars, \$100,
000; annual depreciation, \$100,000; three
per cent. interest on a million of property,
\$30,000; subsidy in summer, \$20,000; pres-
ent cable service (discontinued if the tun-
nel is built), \$7,500; cost of running ice-
boats, \$10,000; add \$30,000 for yearly in-
terest on \$1,000,000 claimed by Prince Ed-
ward Island and allowed by the Federal
Government on account of insufficient
ferry service, and we have an annual ex-
penditure of \$447,500. Now is this all. The
Prince Edward Island Railway is being
run at a deficit of \$101,000; it is reason-
able to suppose that the tunnel itself will
cost \$10,000,000; and the Intercolonial Rail-
way on the mainland could be made to
earn \$100,000 more than it does now if the
Island tunnel were constructed. Here we
have \$30,000 to add to the above amount,
and we have to subtract from it the \$101,
000 in other words, \$748,500 is the
annual cost to Canada of this very in-
adequate and unsatisfactory system of
communication. Look now at the prob-
able outgo entailed by the construction of
the tunnel. Mr. Haney, the contractor,
offered in Ottawa the other day to build
the tunnel for \$10,000,000 and to complete
it in six years—a figure practically the
same as the one made in 1891 by Sir
Douglas Fox, the British engineer. The
annual interest on this sum would be
\$300,000; and the annual maintenance and
depreciation of the tunnel would be about
\$50,000 more. Subtract this amount of
\$350,000 from the above sum of \$748,500,
and we have to the Dominion of \$398,500 by the construction of
the Prince Edward Island tunnel.

Therefore, say the Islanders, there is no
excuse for delay which is wasting public
money and preventing the little province
from reaping the full measure of pros-
perity which is its due.

NOGI'S APOLOGY

While all the world was ringing with
praise of Nogi, who took Port Arthur,
that great general was modestly ex-
cusing himself for having exhausted so much
time and sacrificed so many lives upon a
siege which he felt might have been con-
ducted more cunningly and finished more
quickly. Having finished a work at which all
the world wondered, Nogi proceeded to
apologize as one who was aware of many
shortcomings. This exceeding modesty
crops out in a letter the general wrote
to the Japanese minister of war just after
Stoessel surrendered. It follows:—

"I wish you (he wrote) all the com-
pliments of the season. The feeling I have
at this moment is solely one of anguish
and humiliation that I should have ex-
hausted so many lives so much ammu-
nition and such a long time upon an un-
completed task. At last General Stoessel's
patience seems to have become ex-
hausted, and he surrendered the fortress,
so that in this part of the field a settle-
ment has been reached. I have no ex-
cuse to offer to my sovereign and to my
countrymen for this uncertainty, un-
strategic combat of brute force. Our
preparations are now complete, and we
are looking forward with great pleasure
to taking possession of a new field cam-
paign. Let me add one thing. You may be
amused, perhaps, but I am more than ever
convinced of the inevitable injury done
to the discipline and honor of the mil-
itary in the field by the pernicious habit
of acquiring costly and useless toys in
time of peace. Do not think I speak too
strongly when I express my absolute con-
viction that for preserving a military
spirit, simplicity is as essential as are
economy and practicality in moral educa-
tion. I do not refer merely to the period
during which this war may continue, how-
ever long it may be. My point is that
when they have ceased to hear the voice
of the cannon our military men must
never fall into the inconvenient and mis-
chievous habit of regulating their clothing
and appointments by military stan-
dards. I thank you heartily for your kind
condemnation of the death of my sons, and
beg you to forgive my long display of
military unskillfulness."

It is said this was intended by Nogi as
a private letter, and there is no apparent
reason to suspect that it is disingenuous.
Togo's messages after the recent naval
victory showed a similar spirit. Generals
or admirals of another nation, fresh from
such triumphs, might have coyly admitted
the belief that they had done something
extraordinary. Not so the Jap.

THE UNIVERSITY

The University of New Brunswick is
the head of our public school system. Its
charter was granted to it that it might
carry on to completion the work begun by
the common schools. This connection is
not haphazard. It is organic. It is not
merely such as might be established by
any university existing in the province and
aiming to attract students by making its
entrance requirements suit the standard
of the schools. The Chief Superintendent of
Education is ex officio President of the
University Senate. The board of educa-
tion holds the matriculation examina-
tion for the University every July. This
examination not only entitles those who
pass it to enter the University, but also
gives them certain privileges at the Pro-
vincial Normal School. The large majority
of the grammar school principals of the
province have been graduates of the

University. A large number of licensed
teachers every year enter her halls for an
advanced course of study. This intimate
association between the University and
the rest of the public system has always
been obvious enough to the unbiased and
marks the difference between her and
other institutions of higher education. It
was officially recognized by Premier Tweedie
at the last session of the Legislature
when he put it forward as a reason why
the University should receive more consid-
eration at the hands of the government
than denominational institutions such as
Mt. Allison and St. Joseph's.

The University has been growing con-
stantly to meet more fully the needs and
demands of the life of our people. The
splendid engineering course offered there
is attended by an annually increasing
number, while its graduates readily find
employment. But more money is needed
to carry this adaptation to her environ-
ment further still. How many the direc-
tions are in which more money could be
used may be judged from the fact that
the University of Toronto is soon to re-
ceive in all \$1,000,000. The University of
Fredericton would doubtless limit its ex-
pectations to a much smaller sum. But it
is certainly time for the government to
give more than assurances of friendly dis-
position, more than recognition of good
work done in the past. A substantial in-
crease in the endowment is needed.

A chair of agricultural chemistry should be
established. The work of a professor in
this department would be another link-
like the work of the engineering depart-
ment—between the University and the
practical everyday life of the people, be-
tween the theoretical and the real, be-
tween scientific investigation and the in-
evitable necessity of earning a living. It
would be good for the province, good for
the spirit of its social and intellectual life
if more men among us had means to de-
vote three or four years to purely culture
study before turning to work directly
bearing on the bread and butter question.
But we have to face the facts and most
of us have to get our own living at an
early age as possible. So the government
should give the University the means
of more directly connecting its work with
the money-earning activities of life. And
the first of these in this community of
ours would perhaps be the establishment
of a chair of agricultural chemistry.

The foundation of a school of law would
be a good move on the part of the Uni-
versity if the funds were available for
paying at least two able men to devote
their whole time to the work, provided
that they could secure the services of ca-
pable volunteer assistants. Men whose
vices in such work would be worth while
to give much time to unpaid tasks. And
the same could be said of a school of
medicine. It could be efficient only if
there were money enough to induce three
or four able men to devote by far the
larger part of their time to the work of
teaching. It is true that the professors
in the great colleges of medicine often have
private practices; but these men give rel-
atively a small amount of their time to teach-
ing, owing to the staff being numerous.
But the chair of agricultural chemistry
is within easy reach of the province's
means and the government should certain-
ly show that it has the courage of its con-
victions, which are, that the University
is doing good work and is in great need
of money to extend and simplify the scope
of that work. The time has surely come
to give more than a "lick and a promise,"
more than a kind word and call again.

THE BRITISH ARMY

The experience of some Canadian sol-
diers in South Africa tends to confirm the
opinion frequently put forward in the
public prints, both here and in England,
that class distinctions in the British army
lessen its efficiency and stand in the way
of the full measure of reform which many
critics deem essential for the good of the
service. The Quebec Telegraph has these
editorial reflections upon the subject:
With a keen sense of disappointment
the London Daily Mail points out that
the lesson learned by Great Britain in the
Boer war has already lost its effect. After
the war the War Secretary announced
that he was prepared to make promo-
tions on merit rather than on seniority,
and this policy was for a time adhered to.
The Army Council has now come out with
a formal announcement returning to the
policy of promoting by seniority. It is
readily understood that in Great Britain
there are overwhelming social and political
influences opposed to promotion by selec-
tion of merit, and favorable to the old plan
of going by seniority. But it was hoped
that the Boer war had shown the impos-
sibility of keeping up a policy of that kind
—of giving important posts to aristocratic
incompetents and keeping in subordinate
place men with a genius for war.

This is the twentieth century, the writer
continues, and war is a serious business for
serious men. When a nation can lose, as
Russia did, \$80,000,000 worth of ships and
guns in one day's battle, it is absurd to
suppose that social considerations should
prevail to keep incompetent persons in
command of a nation's interests on land or
sea. Japan would not do it. The United
States of America would not do it. There
are two nations whose people would enter
a war determined to win or bring the
world to an end. In the American civil
war seniority counted on the side of the
North just long enough for Lincoln to get
his bearings. It would be the same to-
morrow in the event of a serious war in
which the Republic should become en-
gaged. The man with a genius for com-
mand would rapidly stride to the front.

In the Japanese army, in the evidence
so far supplied, goes to show that every of-
ficer is the adviser of his general, and that
the youngest of them is listened to as our-
teously as if he were the hero of a dozen
campaigns. There is nothing of this in
the British service—except where a gar-
rison is so hemmed in that nobody is ex-
pected to survive. Even then deference
for rank and seniority is so deeply en-
grooted in the nature of the younger
officers that they enthusiastically approve
all that the superior propose.

It is the general opinion that class dis-
tinctions in the British army greatly re-
duce its efficiency. This opinion is shared
by most Canadians. It is felt that there
is too much red tape, too much importance
attached to formal discipline and not
enough license accorded to the aboriginal
instinct to approach an enemy with cunning
and leave him utterly destroyed. War is
war, drawing out the blood and groans
of a nation, and cannot be formalized into
an international game. It is not easy to
see how democratic colonies and a parent
country with a ruling aristocracy can have
an army or a navy in common. Colonial
officers will be selected by natural apti-
tude, and advanced by merit; theirs will
be selected by caste and promoted by sen-
iority. It was hoped that the Boer war
had shown the folly of this old Roman plan,
but it appears social influence has been
too strong for the army reformers.

JAPAN'S PRESENT DIFFI-
CULTY

While many observers are analyzing Rus-
sia's troubles the Russian Transcript be-
lieves that Japan is face to face with a
grave difficulty now that it is generally ad-
mitted she has beaten Russia. The Trans-
cript remembers how a coalition of na-
tions robbed Japan after she whipped
China, and suggests that only great firm-
ness at the present time will prevent simi-
lar meddling by outsiders.

"If it be true that President 'Roosevelt's
attempts to facilitate the opening of
peace negotiations are in a fair way to suc-
ceed," says the Transcript, "Japan faces
the real crisis of the war. So tremendous
are the issues involved, for the world at
large as well as for Japan, that no mis-
take should be made. It is difficult to see,
unless Russia is willing to surrender Vlad-
ivostok and her Pacific provinces to Japan
and furnish some kind of fast guarantee
that the Peace of the Far East will not
be disturbed by her for years to come, how
Japan can afford to treat, at this time,
Russia must be placed in a position where
she will be helpless to strike at Japan.
Her sea power has been broken and she
cannot in a dozen years, if ever, hope to
regain command of the Eastern seas. By
her double tracking her Siberian Railroad
her great resources might enable her in
time to assemble an army in Manchuria
sufficient to test Japan's capacity. Japan
therefore must demand such guarantees as
will, if possible, prevent such an outcome.
In fact Russia must be crushed in a ma-
terial way to a point where she will be
unable to resume her eastward march for
a long time at least. But above all things
Japan should not allow the settlement to
be known to the Powers. She would be
checked and robbed of the fruits of her
victories."

THE PEACE TALK

While Japan and Russia are willing to
accept President Roosevelt's well-meant
efforts in the direction of peace, it does
not follow that peace is in the air. Out-
side of Russia there has been a convic-
tion for quite a long time that the longer
peace negotiations were postponed the
worse it would be for Russia, and there is
no reason to revise that opinion; but the
opinion in Russia has not yet been
silenced, and the terms on which Japan
will end her wonderful series of victories
have not been stated. She will certainly
insist upon everything claimed before
war was declared, and would now be jus-
tified in demanding much more. The tone
of the Tokio press, as shown in the dis-
patches published this morning, is dis-
tinctly firm, and indicates a confident
assurance in the ability of the country to
maintain its claims—an assurance which
will be generally agreed is well founded.
With absolute command of the sea, and
with half a dozen armies in Manchuria,
apparently quite capable of defeating
Linertsev and reducing Vladivostok,
Japan, heavy though the burden of the
war may be, is in no mood to sacrifice
that for which she has fought with such
dauntless resolution and unparalleled suc-
cess. If Russia desires peace, and is will-
ing to pay the price, President Roose-
velt's good offices will bear fruit. But
the war is between Russia and Japan,
and even the meeting of plenipotentiaries
of these two countries is no guarantee
of peace.

THE SETTLERS

It is not a political conquest of Canada
by American farmers that England needs
to fear. It is an industrial and com-
mercial conquest. It is the United States
which has the real cause to feel alarm
over the condition. The wholesale ex-
change of good stock for bad cannot fail
to have an evil effect upon us, politically
and industrially.—Chicago Journal.

The Journal is inclined to be mournful
over the fact that 50,000 United States
farmers are coming to Canada this year,
while their places are filled in great mea-
sure by undesirable immigrants. The
Chicago newspaper believes Canada will
attract 100,000 Americans next year and
it says the citizenship of the United
States "must deteriorate woefully if these
currents continue to increase in volume

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GREATER OAK HALL KING STREET COR. GERMAIN ST. JOHN SCOVIL BROS. & CO. BRANCH STORE 703 MAIN STREET, NORTH END

as they have increased in the last de-
cade."

The Journal is amused by the opinion,
expressed in some British periodicals,
that the Americans who are going into
our West are thoroughly imbued with the
Monroe Doctrine and aim at political con-
trol. Few of them know or care much
about the Doctrine, the Journal says, and
probably it is right. Most of them will
be British subjects. They will be
busy with the crops. When they find
time for politics they and their sons will
be Liberals or Conservatives. They will
count with the Canadian settlers in out-
balancing the European immigrants who
are attracted by the cheap land. Many
of them would have found cheap and de-
sirable land at home had not the politi-
cal land grabbers had full swing for many
years. When they have lived in Canada
long enough to appreciate the difference
between conditions here and in the re-
public, they will be glad of the change.

NOTE AND COMMENT

The premier of Sweden says his coun-
try will not recognize the action taken
by Norway. If that means anything it
means war, since Norway is evidently
determined to have separation first, even
if she agrees to a defensive alliance af-
terward.

Germany and some other nations hesi-
tate about recognizing Norway in its new
role. But as Sweden is not prepared to
go to war about the separation, and as
the world will buy from and sell to the
Norwegians as before, the separation may
be regarded as a settled thing. Meantime
if there is a price out of a job, Norway
will give him one.

Senator Derville urges the government
to exterminate the rats on all ships en-
tering Canadian ports, in order to pre-
vent the introduction of the bubonic
plague. It will be recalled that the Sen-
ator has at times commended not to say
befriended the Emperor of Japan. Here
we get back to the rats. The Japanese
at once time, fearing the bubonic plague,
killed all the rats in their sea ports and
aboard ships arriving there, and not only
kept out the plague but used the skins of
the rats to make ear-muffs for their sol-
diers. This expedient is said to have con-
tributed greatly to the comfort of Japa-
nese troops during the Manchurian winter.
Colonel Derville may intend recommend-
ing the safety of his country the Mikado for
the safety of the whole country and the
comfort of the enlarged Canadian army.

The senate, not knowing the Mikado's rat
story, appeared to think Senator Dom-
ville's scheme was unworthy of a great
statesman; but so long as the Colonel can
cite the Mikado he will have the right
end of the rat argument.

It is a pity that the Colonel did not give
some warning. It is the fate of some
statesmen that their generation does not
fully appreciate them.

.....

Togo's victory is not a Trafalgar, says
the Toronto News:—

Doubtless there could have been found
on either side a fighting machine that
would have sent Nelson's fleet or the
Spanish Armada to the bottom, just as a
supply of modern rifles and artillery would
have changed the fate of Waterloo. In
the struggle with Philip and in the strug-
gle with Napoleon the liberties of Eng-
land, and perhaps of the world, were
trembling in the balance. In this and in
the mere slaughter of men and destruc-
tion of ships, lies the world-wide and en-
during greatness of Trafalgar and the de-
fect of the Armada. Such elements of en-
during greatness are not lacking in the
struggle between Russia and Japan. In
it we see the rise of a new power of the
first rank, strong in patriotism, courage,
intelligence and self-control; the deep
humiliation of an empire, the exposure
of its weakness, the threat of a social
convulsion like that which rent France,
and made all Europe tremble a century
ago. But all this had been seen before
the destruction of the Baltic fleet. Its
long voyage was a forlorn hope, and if,
against tremendous odds, it had achieved
victory, it would have only prolonged the
agony.

.....

The London Daily Telegraph sees one
great lesson in Togo's victory—the impor-
tance of men rather than ships and guns.
It says:—
The battle of Tushima Straits illus-
trates once more that, in spite of all that
science has done in perfecting the in-
struments of naval warfare, the man is still
greater than the gun, the torpedo, or the
ship. In other words, of even more im-
portance than the mere possession of ships is
the character of the crews and the train-
ing in warlike operations which they have
received—and in gunnery above all. Rus-
sia laid all the shipyards of the world—
German, French, American, and even
British—under contribution in building up
the fleet which was to have held the com-
mand of Far Eastern seas against all com-
ers. She equipped herself with magnifi-
cent battleships and cruisers of great
power and speed. Time, thought, and mil-
lions of treasure were lavished on this
work, and she obtained a fleet which was
the envy and terror of the Western
world. She imagined that ships were sea-
power, and neglected to train the officers
and men in the handling of the scientific
instruments which were entrusted to their
use. Russia has paid the penalty, as Italy

paid it years ago, as China and Spain have
paid it, as England paid it in the Ameri-
can war, and as all nations must pay it
which worship the weapon—polish and
panper it—and forget that it is not only
useless, but a positive danger, without the
trained mind, eye, and hand behind it.

A BLOODLESS WAR

(Bangor News.)

It is quite useless for the agitators to
try and get up anything resembling a war
between this country and New Brunswick
over the question of a few logs in the
St. John river. The men on both sides of
the line are too sensible to permit things
to go too far. It is a good thing to get up
a bit of international rivalry now and
then. The life of the river driver and the
lumberman is often monotonous. There
are many hours of hard work, and a very
small amount of relaxation. Men risk
their lives every hour in the day there
in the woods and by rushing streams, and
though heroism is as common as spruce
gun, the stories seldom reach beyond the
local camps and settlements. Now and
again fragments from this great and un-
published Epic of the Woods find their
way into print, and these we, who cannot
realize what is going on among the trees,
get excited and wish to learn more. Rival-
ry is just as keen in the wilderness of
Northern Maine as it is on Wall street.
No drive ever came down any river with-
out putting lives and fortunes to the hazard.
The men who do the work are too sense-
sible to indulge in bloodletting. They
work too hard for the pay which they re-
ceive. Though more spring than the
average soldier, they will not take need-
less risks.

Back of all rivalry and contention among
owners and bosses of men, lies the eter-
nal fact that no good can be gained by
fomenting strife. The interests at stake
are not sufficient. The risks to be run
are too great. The standard of morals and
of citizenship has advanced very much
among the residents on both sides of the
river since the comic opera war of 1889.
Whatever interests, that may clash today
can be adjusted to the satisfaction of both
parties without recourse to force.

JACK HANSON ESCAPES

FROM WOODSTOCK JAIL

Woodstock, N. B. June 10.—Jack Hanson,
who was committed to jail a couple of
weeks ago charged with assault, broke jail
last night and is now at large. It would
seem that he tried to open the door lead-
ing from the corridor, of which he had the
key, to the outside corridor, whence he got
into the debtor's cell, which is not barred,
and by leaving his coat and vest behind him
got through a small pane of glass and thus
for him and have communicated with the
authorities in Houlton and elsewhere.

Relatives of James Andrew Steele, of
Liverpool (Eng.), are making inquiries as
to his whereabouts, and his mother has
written to the local Seamen's Mission.

A man's standard of beauty always de-
pends on the woman who questions him.

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